



Northwestern Middle School  
176 Limit Street, Battle Creek, MI 49037  
(26) 965 9607

**School Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter**

January 17, 2020

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER) which provides key information on the 2018-19 educational progress for the Northwestern Middle School. The AER addresses the complex reporting information required by federal and state laws. The school's report contains information about student assessment, accountability, and teacher quality. If you have any questions about the AER, please contact Building Principal Stephenie Bruce for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site <http://bit.ly/2IC9JKV>, or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school. The district's AER report is available at The BCPS district AER is available at <https://goo.gl/H6z7zp>.

For the 2018-19 school year, schools were identified using definitions and labels as required in the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). A Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI) school is one that has at least one underperforming student group. An Additional Targeted Support (ATS) school is one that has a student group performing at the same level as the lowest 5% of all schools in the state. A Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) school is one whose performance is in the lowest 5% of all schools in the state or has a graduation rate at or below 67%. Some schools are not identified with any of these labels. In these cases, no label is given.

Our school was identified as a Comprehensive Support and Improvement school.

Our combined data report indicates that our overall percentage of students demonstrating proficiency in all test areas stayed the same from the 2017-2018 school year to the 2018-2019 school year. This is represented in student groups of students as well, particularly African American students and students with Individualized Education Plans. Currently, Northwestern Middle School is in year two for transformation, which includes a strategic plan to support students and families in need, establish additional resources to meet our needs, highlight our

areas of excellence, and provide a series of professional learning experiences for our staff to be prepared to meet the goals of our strategic plan. Specifically, our strategic plan includes intervention classes for math and reading, implementation of Positive Behavioral Supports and Interventions (PBIS), Professional Learning Communities, and implementation of math and English Language Arts (ELA) curricula aligned to Common Core State Standards.

### **PROCESS FOR ASSIGNING PUPILS TO THE SCHOOL**

Students are assigned to Northwestern by their area of residence and in accordance with the school zones map set forth by our Student Services department and Board of Education. Intra-district school of choice is an option for any Battle Creek Public School student through an application process.

### **THE STATUS OF THE 3-5 YEAR SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN**

Northwestern Middle School is year two of its School Improvement Plan. Goals with strategic plans were developed for all core content areas (math, ELA, science, social studies), and building a positive climate and culture. Documented progress has been made with the implementation of PBIS, establishment of Professional Learning Communities, and academic progress in specific areas of focus. The aggregated student achievement data for math and ELA can be viewed below. The core curriculum for each content can be accessed by contacting the highly qualified teacher for that subject area through calling our front office.

### **A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF EACH SPECIALIZED SCHOOL**

Northwestern Middle School has approximately 315 students. We specialize in the four core curricular areas, (Math, Reading/Writing, Science, and Social Studies) and have many extra-curricular areas taught as well. These would include Physical Education, Technology, Art, and Music.

### **IDENTIFY HOW TO ACCESS A COPY OF THE CORE CURRICULUM, A DESCRIPTION OF ITS IMPLEMENTATION, AND AN EXPLANATION OF THE VARIANCES FROM THE STATE'S MODEL**

NWMS' core curriculum and curriculum guides can be accessed by requesting copies from the school's office. Battle Creek Public Schools' curriculum is aligned with Michigan's Common Core Curriculum. Curricular work continues to fully align the curriculum with the Common Core Standards. Curriculum maps and common classroom assessments are being developed to provide teachers with consistent expectations to monitor student achievement. The district continues to focus on the Four A's of curriculum work: *Alignment* with the Standards and Benchmarks/Grade Level Content Expectations; *Articulation* between grade levels and core areas/courses; *Assessment* measures that consistently gauges student achievement levels; and *Accountability* in teaching the written curriculum. Teachers are actively involved in the curriculum development process and provide valuable feedback as we continue to focus on high levels of academic achievement for all students.

# THE AGGREGATE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT RESULTS FOR ANY LOCAL COMPETENCY TESTS OR NATIONALLY NORMED ACHIEVEMENT TESTS

The data below displays student proficiency based on the Northwest Evaluation Association's Measures of Academic Progress (NWEA MAP), which is a nationally normed assessment. Students at Northwestern Middle School complete this assessment three times each year to measure academic progress in reading and math. The data shows levels of student proficiency grouped into quintiles.



## Grade Report

Grade 6

Term: Spring 2018-2019  
District: Battle Creek Public Schools  
School: Northwestern

Norms Reference Data: 2015  
Weeks of Instruction: 32 (Spring 2019)  
Grouping: None  
Small Group Display: No

### Mathematics

Summary	
Total Students With Valid Growth Test Scores	108
Mean RIT	203.2
Standard Deviation	14.4
District Grade Level Mean RIT	208.4
Students At or Above District Grade Level Mean RIT	37
Norm Grade Level Mean RIT	225.3
Students At or Above Norm Grade Level Mean RIT	3

Overall Performance	Lo %ile < 21		LoAvg %ile 21-40		Avg %ile 41-60		HiAvg %ile 61-80		Hi %ile > 80		Mean RIT (+/- Smp Err)	Std Dev
	count	%	count	%	count	%	count	%	count	%		
Mathematics	80	74%	21	19%	6	6%	0	0%	1	1%	202-203-205	14.4



## Grade Report

Grade 6

Term: Spring 2018-2019  
District: Battle Creek Public Schools  
School: Northwestern

Norms Reference Data: 2015  
Weeks of Instruction: 32 (Spring 2019)  
Grouping: None  
Small Group Display: No

### Reading

Summary	
Total Students With Valid Growth Test Scores	111
Mean RIT	200.1
Standard Deviation	16
District Grade Level Mean RIT	205.3
Students At or Above District Grade Level Mean RIT	47
Norm Grade Level Mean RIT	215.8
Students At or Above Norm Grade Level Mean RIT	17

Overall Performance	Lo %ile < 21		LoAvg %ile 21-40		Avg %ile 41-60		HiAvg %ile 61-80		Hi %ile > 80		Mean RIT (+/- Smp Err)	Std Dev
	count	%	count	%	count	%	count	%	count	%		
Reading	56	50%	29	26%	18	16%	6	5%	2	2%	199-200-202	16



## Grade Report

Grade 7

Term: Spring 2018-2019  
District: Battle Creek Public Schools  
School: Northwestern

Norms Reference Data: 2015  
Weeks of Instruction: 32 (Spring 2019)  
Grouping: None  
Small Group Display: No

### Mathematics

Summary	
Total Students With Valid Growth Test Scores	129
Mean RIT	204.9
Standard Deviation	13.2
District Grade Level Mean RIT	211.6
Students At or Above District Grade Level Mean RIT	40
Norm Grade Level Mean RIT	228.6
Students At or Above Norm Grade Level Mean RIT	4

Overall Performance	Lo %ile < 21		LoAvg %ile 21-40		Avg %ile 41-60		HiAvg %ile 61-80		Hi %ile > 80		Mean RIT (+/- Smp Err)	Std Dev
	count	%	count	%	count	%	count	%	count	%		
Mathematics	97	75%	20	16%	11	9%	1	1%	0	0%	204-205-206	13.2

**map**™ **Grade Report**  
GROWTH

**Grade 7**

**Term:** Spring 2018-2019  
**District:** Battle Creek Public Schools  
**School:** Northwestern

**Norms Reference Data:** 2015  
**Weeks of Instruction:** 32 (Spring 2019)  
**Grouping:** None  
**Small Group Display:** No

**Reading**

Summary	
Total Students With Valid Growth Test Scores	127
Mean RIT	200.6
Standard Deviation	15.6
District Grade Level Mean RIT	207.5
Students At or Above District Grade Level Mean RIT	44
Norm Grade Level Mean RIT	218.2
Students At or Above Norm Grade Level Mean RIT	13

Overall Performance	Lo %ile < 21		LoAvg %ile 21-40		Avg %ile 41-60		HiAvg %ile 61-80		Hi %ile > 80		Mean RIT (+/- Smp Err)	Std Dev
	count	%	count	%	count	%	count	%	count	%		
Reading	78	61%	27	21%	16	13%	4	3%	2	2%	199-201-202	15.6

**map**™ **Grade Report**  
GROWTH

**Grade 8**

**Term:** Spring 2018-2019  
**District:** Battle Creek Public Schools  
**School:** Northwestern

**Norms Reference Data:** 2015  
**Weeks of Instruction:** 32 (Spring 2019)  
**Grouping:** None  
**Small Group Display:** No

**Mathematics**

Summary	
Total Students With Valid Growth Test Scores	115
Mean RIT	209.9
Standard Deviation	16.6
District Grade Level Mean RIT	216
Students At or Above District Grade Level Mean RIT	38
Norm Grade Level Mean RIT	230.9
Students At or Above Norm Grade Level Mean RIT	9

Overall Performance	Lo %ile < 21		LoAvg %ile 21-40		Avg %ile 41-60		HiAvg %ile 61-80		Hi %ile > 80		Mean RIT (+/- Smp Err)	Std Dev
	count	%	count	%	count	%	count	%	count	%		
Mathematics	74	64%	22	19%	14	12%	5	4%	0	0%	208-210-211	16.6

**map**™ **Grade Report**  
GROWTH

**Grade 8**

**Term:** Spring 2018-2019  
**District:** Battle Creek Public Schools  
**School:** Northwestern

**Norms Reference Data:** 2015  
**Weeks of Instruction:** 32 (Spring 2019)  
**Grouping:** None  
**Small Group Display:** No

**Reading**

Summary	
Total Students With Valid Growth Test Scores	115
Mean RIT	203.5
Standard Deviation	19.9
District Grade Level Mean RIT	210.8
Students At or Above District Grade Level Mean RIT	53
Norm Grade Level Mean RIT	220.1
Students At or Above Norm Grade Level Mean RIT	23

Overall Performance	Lo %ile < 21		LoAvg %ile 21-40		Avg %ile 41-60		HiAvg %ile 61-80		Hi %ile > 80		Mean RIT (+/- Smp Err)	Std Dev
	count	%	count	%	count	%	count	%	count	%		
Reading	57	50%	29	25%	12	10%	13	11%	4	3%	202-204-205	19.9

**IDENTIFY THE NUMBER AND PERCENT OF STUDENTS REPRESENTED BY PARENTS AT PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES**

Parent involvement has historically been an obstacle at our school. However, we have seen an increase in involvement for school events and collaboration meetings this year. Our Fall parent/teacher conferences were attended by approximately 50% of our families, and our Spring

conferences were attended by approximately 25% of our families. We have tried some new types of events to promote parent engagement that have been beneficial this year. We also have a Family and Community Engagement Advocate to assist in this area.

At Northwestern Middle School, we believe that all children can learn and succeed, regardless of race, ethnicity, native language, academic struggles, income, or background. This is a place where students can learn safely, explore their creativity, establish positive interactions with peers and adults, and prepare for their futures.

BCPS is in the midst of a historic transformation to ensure a world-class college, career, and culture ready education for every student, in every grade at every school. We understand that big change does not happen overnight, and as a district, we are committed to long-term growth for the betterment of our students, schools, and our community.

As a parent at Northwestern Middle School, you are part of a diverse community where every person provides a unique contribution. We believe in the infinite possibilities of our students and their future. Thank you for being a part of this journey with us. Believe in the Change!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Stephenie Bruce  
Principal  
Northwestern Middle School